15. (New) The perpendicular magnetic recording medium of claim 2, wherein the perpendicular magnetic recording medium has a double-layer structure including a soft magnetic layer between the substrate and the perpendicular orientation promoting underlayer.

16. (New) The perpendicular magnetic recording medium of claim 2, wherein the perpendicular magnetic recording medium has a pseudo double-layer structure including a soft magnetic layer between the perpendicular orientation promoting underlayer and the perpendicular magnetic recording layer.--

REMARKS

A change has been made to the specification by the above amendments. Claims 3, 5, and 7-10 have been amended and claims 11-16 have been added to remove multiple dependency. Favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: December 31, 2001

Attachment to Preliminary Amendment

Marked-up copy of Claims 3, 5, and 7-10

3. (Amended) The perpendicular magnetic recording medium of claim 1 [or 2], wherein the perpendicular magnetic enhancement layer is formed of at least one selected from the group consisting of Pt, Au, Pd and an alloy of these materials.

5. (Amended) The perpendicular magnetic recording medium of claim 1 [or 2], wherein the perpendicular magnetic recording layer is formed of a CoCr alloy.

7. (Amended) The perpendicular magnetic recording medium of claim 1 [or 2], further comprising a protective layer and a lubricant layer sequentially on the perpendicular magnetic recording layer.

8. (Amended) The perpendicular magnetic recording medium of claim 1 [or 2], wherein perpendicular magnetic enhancement layer is formed of Pt and has a thickness no less than 15 nm.

9. (Amended) The perpendicular magnetic recording medium of claim 1 [or 2], wherein the perpendicular magnetic recording medium has a double-layer structure including a soft magnetic layer between the substrate and the perpendicular orientation promoting underlayer.

10. (Amended) The perpendicular magnetic recording medium of claim 1 [or 2, wherein 8], wherein the perpendicular magnetic recording medium has a pseudo double-layer structure including a soft magnetic layer between the perpendicular orientation promoting underlayer and the perpendicular magnetic recording layer.